

REMARKS

Claims Status

Prior to entry of this Amendment and Response, claims 1-3, 6, 7, 11-17, 20, 21 and 25-27 were pending in this application. In the Office Action, claims 1-3, 6, 7, 11-13, 15-17, 20, 21 and 35-27 were rejected, claim 14 was allowed, and claims 2, 3, 16 and 17 were objected to. In this Amendment and Response, claims 1-3, 6, 7, 11-13, 15-17, and 25-27 are amended. Support for the amendments may be found in the specification, and no new matter has been added.

Upon entry of this Amendment and Response, claims 1-3, 6, 7, 11-17, 20, 21 and 25-27 remain pending. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections and objections in light of the amendments made here.

Claim Objections

In paragraph 3, the Examiner objected to claims 2 and 16. These claims have been amended to address the Examiner's objections.

In paragraph 4, the Examiner objected to claims 3 and 17. These claims have been amended to address the Examiner's objections.

Claim Rejections

In paragraph 6, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 6, 7, 11-13, 15-17, 20, 21 and 25-27 under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter. These claims have been amended to address the Examiner's rejections.

Amendment and Response

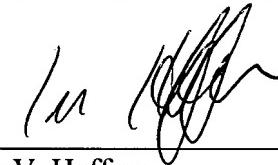
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application, withdrawal of all grounds of objection, and allowance of claims 1-3, 6, 7, 11-17, 20, 21, and 25-27 in due course. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative by telephone at the number below to discuss any outstanding issues.

Respectfully submitted,



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